

California State Journal of Medicine.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE!

All Scientific Papers submitted for Publication must be typewritten.

Notify the office promptly of any change of address, in order that mailing list and addresses in the Register may be corrected.

VOL. XIV DECEMBER, 1916 No. 12

At noon on November 27th, Dr. Philip Mills Jones, Editor of the "California State Journal of Medicine" and Secretary of the Medical Society of the State of California, died of pneumonia at his home in San Francisco.

His unique position as a leader of the organized profession of the State of California will make his loss well-nigh irreparable, and his death will be a great shock to the innumerable physicians throughout the State whom he has befriended both in his individual and his official capacity.

Owing to the lateness of the date, an extended notice of Dr. Jones' life and activities must be postponed until a later issue.

EDITORIAL NOTES

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Committee on Scientific Program wish to announce that so many applications for places on the program have been received that no further papers can be considered unless a vacancy hereafter occurs. Those whose papers have already been accepted are again reminded that there must be in the hands of the Committee, not later than January 1st, 1917, the full title of their paper with abstract. Any one failing to comply with these regulations will be automatically dropped from the program.

MALPRACTISE INDEMNITY FUND.

Are you one of the 2220 members of the Society who have intended to contribute to the fund, or are going to do so, or are thinking about it but have not done so? If you are one of this class, you had better send your check for \$15.00 and your note for like amount, payable one year after date, immediately.

INDEMNITY FUND.

The correspondence which has developed since the announcement of the creation of the Malpractice Indemnity Fund has been very voluminous. Practically without exception, every one who has written to the secretary has approved the plan.

One man writes as follows: "Happy is the man that has never been sued or threatened with a suit, but the fateful day may come to any physician, and we, had better all stand together to take care of ourselves when we have such a good chance as now is offered."

The writer of the letter is perfectly correct. If the physicians of this State do not cooperate amongst themselves for their own protection, they will very soon be in exceedingly bad case. Suits for damages for alleged malpractice are steadily increasing and, as was recorded in last month's JOURNAL, occasionally one goes against the physician. There should be at least 1000 members of the State Society with sufficient intelligence and business sense to take advantage of a plan whereby they absolutely protect themselves at a small cost and without any overhead charges against their investment. There are no dividends to pay; there is nothing to pay out of the fund except the actual cost of settlements. Doubtless there are hundreds of doctors, members of this society, who would cheerfully be inveigled into buying some wildcat oil stock, but who will deliberate for days or weeks before investing the small sum of \$15.00 for their own protection.

AGAIN THE INDEMNITY FUND.

A member who transmits his check and note as a contribution to this fund, raises the question as to whether there would be any objection to a member also carrying insurance, and whether it would be of any value. There certainly can be no objection. It would be of value only to this extent, that it would conserve the fund; because, firstly, if such a member was sued, the insurance company would have to bear the expenses of the suit, though our attorneys might cooperate in the actual trial if it were necessary; secondly, if a judgment went against the member, the insurance company would have to pay up to the amount of the policy, thus conserving the fund of our own members in our own hands.

ABOUT INCOMES.

One gentleman and member of our society, who sent in a postcard with the information as nearly as he could give it, also sent a letter which is so sound and reasonable that we are almost tempted to publish his name. However, as his permission has not been secured, the name is omitted, but the letter follows:

"Oct. 28, 1916.

"Dear Doctor:

"In answer to your favor with postal card enclosed to fill out, would state that I am in a farming district where it is somewhat difficult to